

( 018 )

SELECTIONS  
FROM THE  
VERNACULAR NEWSPAPERS

PUBLISHED IN THE

PUNJAB, NORTH-WESTERN PROVINCES, OUDH,

AND THE

CENTRAL PROVINCES,

From the 8th to the 16th of July, 1868.

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THE *Rahnoomai Punjab* of the 12th of June does not require special notice.

The *Kaleid Ummed* of the 13th of June mentions, on the authority of a letter from a correspondent at Cuttack, that there is great probability of a disturbance at some place (name not quite legible; Kenjhurka, or some such name), owing to the people being dissatisfied with a Rajah, who is said to have been placed on the *guddee* by Government orders. A petition is said to have been forwarded to Government, praying that Rajah Mor Seej's daughter may be made successor to the *guddee*. "The Commissioner of Orissa, acting under the orders of Government, would not accept this, because the people are ripe for rebellion. Some ten or fifteen thousand men have collected, and the Superintendent of Police and Deputy Commissioner of Nagpore have gone there."

News already alluded to by other papers is given concerning the state of affairs in Affghanistan; the news is said to come from a messenger who has arrived at Peshawar. The writer mentions a rebellion in Turkistan, and that Mahomed Azim Khan has sent a small force to Ghuznee, and has raised a new army from the hill tribes; &c., &c. "Mahomed Azim Khan has given orders that any person who sends



any kind of news out of Cabul will be punished by having his property confiscated. Mahomed Azim Khan is said to have seized a Gosain (Hindoo priest) at Jellalabad, and would have kept him prisoner in the temple until he paid Rs. 1,000 ; but the priest, finding an opportunity of escaping, went off to Peshawur." This priest is described as " a person of some standing ; and his followers, who respect him very much, are numerous."

The report of the Emperor of Russia having sent a force into Bokhara is noticed. The writer says it is not known what his intentions are. One or two messengers have, it is said, left Peshawur for Herat and Bokhara, for the purpose of enquiring into this.

The liberality of the Lahore community in having subscribed towards a college at that place is highly extolled. The writer says :—" The conditions are that Government will also assist with pecuniary aid, and when the university is established the arrangements of the college will be in keeping with it. The allowance to students will be continued."

The *Koh-i-Noor* of the 13th of June, after several extracts of no importance, notices the attempt to commit fraud at Bhopal by one Ram Buksh, who forged a *sunnud*. " The Tehseeldar of the district got news of what was going on ; the paper was at once seized, and the circumstance reported to the head of Bhopal. The Political Agent was consulted, and that officer wrote to the Begum to the effect that it would be well to enquire into the case, and award punishment ; and this was to have been done. But Ram Buksh decamped, and wrote a private letter or petition to the Begum, stating that if she would pardon him he would present himself. It is said that the statesmen of the Durbar have taken the Begum's advice or opinion as to the policy of pardoning the criminal, but as yet no sanction to the measure has been received." The writer is of opinion that the criminal is not deserving of pardon.



Bokhara news is alluded to as having appeared in the *Lahore Chronicle*. The death of the King of Bokhara, and the capture of that place by the Russians, reported by the above paper, are contradicted. The rumour is said to have originated in Cabul, and spread thence to Peshawur; the people, in their own way, adding "a little more *chilli* to their salt" (in other words, that the news has increased in transit). The writer adds,—“So much of it is true, that the Russians wish to bring the King under subjection to them. It is likely that the news above alluded to comes in private letters, and is at least doubtful.” If it were true, the writer thinks that there would be some signs of rejoicing among the Shikarporee tribe, whose friends and relations live at Bokhara; and the Hindoos there all suffer from religious prejudices. Among other things, it is said that they (the Hindoos) are not allowed to ride horses at Bokhara, but only mules; and they are not allowed to bathe in the tanks because the Mahomedans bathe there. Instead of turbans they wear caps; and whenever a Hindoo is found guilty of any heinous crime he is stoned to death, which mode of execution is described as follows:—“The criminal is made to stand in a hole surrounded by Mahomedans well provided with stones. He is then ordered to pray for the rights of the King, that he may live long, his empire increase, and his reign be continued. If the criminal obeys this injunction, a large stone is cast at him, with the object of putting him at once out of his misery; but if he refuses, he is subjected to showers of smaller stones, and thus tortured, until death puts an end to his sufferings.”

The *Moofeed-ool Anam* of the 11th of June does not require particular notice.

The *Rohilcund Ukhbar* of the 13th of June, after extracts, &c., from other sources, alludes to a meeting of the Moradabad Association, held in the house of Rajah Jai Kishun Dass. After which the *Doorbeen* of the 20th of May is quoted to the effect that “the Secretary of State for India has



expressed great displeasure at the Government of the Punjab for some neglect or slight shown to the Jumamoo Chief, and has sent a letter to this effect, *viz.*,—that a letter addressed to the Chief was not written according to custom; that hitherto the Lieutenant-Governor has himself written; and that the said letter was wanting in that honour and respect which is due to the Maharajah. And of a second letter the same complaint is made; the wording is said to be not in accordance with the general rule observed in addressing Chiefs of note, and is calculated to cause him regret and annoyance."

A correspondent of this paper writes that "in the Civil Department the Judge of Saharunpore has frequent cases of fraud and embezzlement brought to his notice, in which cases the Sherishtadar and Nazir being concerned, are under suspension. Some time ago, fraudulent receipts were found in the Sudder Suddoolee Department, and in consequence many persons were dismissed, and others transferred from one station to another. In one case against the Sherishtadar, embezzlement to the extent of Rs. 10,000 was discovered. Half this sum has been paid back, but the balance is not forthcoming. The results are in God's keeping."

The *Unjuman Hind* of the 13th of June mentions the following occurrence at Kangra:—"On the 6th of May, the Assistant Commissioner was in Court, when, in consequence of a very high wind having sprung up, the doors were closed. All at once, a stone weighing about half a seer fell on the table with great force, creating much noise and confusion. Enquiry is now being made as to the cause of this occurrence, but as yet nothing satisfactory has been ascertained concerning the person or persons answerable for it."

The *Gwalior Gazette* of the 7th of June mentions the departure of the Maharajah on a shooting excursion towards Kaleeta. "At the time the salute was fired, the 1st Light Infantry also went to that place; and on the 3rd of June, at mid-



night, some fifty cavalry and a company of infantry also went."

The *Oudh Ukhbar* is quoted to the effect that "the Hindoos of Kotah have complained to the supreme Government against the Mahomedan Sirdars concerning the temples belonging to them (the Hindoos). It is said that the Governor-General has prevented them (the Mahomedans) from collecting the money, and that they are not to oppress the people so much, as such oppression is likely to lead to a breach of the peace. Orders have been passed to prevent this."

The *Sadik-ool Ukhbar* of the 13th of June does not require special notice.

The *Meerut Gazette* of the same date, referring to the marriage ceremonies of the daughter of the Baroda Chief, says that the wedding was a very costly one, but that the people about the Chief made away with a good deal of the money expended. The writer adds,—“Some of the articles which the Maharajah obtained from Bombay, for which the English merchants asked Rs. 18,000, the Maharajah had to pay Rs. 80,000.”

The *Ukhbar Alum* of the 11th of June offers some comments upon the translations of the Rules of the Legislative Council published in the *Government Gazette* at Allahabad, and sometimes circulated in a separate form, like the Penal Code. The writer says that special translators were appointed for this work. “Generally speaking, the learned public raise objections to these rules and laws, and say that the translator requires time and study to understand them; and that the subject is not usually understood until the reader has read nearly through the Act; and in consequence of the ambiguous wording people misunderstand the meaning. If we were to write down examples of these laws so doubtfully translated, it would take us a very long time; and that is why we have not written them. We are certain that no one will



object to this statement, because we have found many officers and lawyers of Courts wanting in the understanding of these translations, upon which they offered various opinions. When we looked well into this subject, we certainly found it to be the case, and the difference is entirely owing to the faithfulness of the translation ; but the wonder is that the members of the Legislative Council, who are generally learned men and lovers of justice, whose English writing in connection with the law is in eloquent and pure language.\* The translator to Government is also a learned and meritorious gentleman. It is not known, then, why there is this difference in the understanding of the laws, and why people take so long to understand them," &c., &c. The writer declares his object and meaning to be that it would be a great thing if the translations referred to were written in plainer language, so that everybody of common capacity could understand them.

The *Nusseem Jounpore* of the 16th of June does not require particular notice. This paper says that, in consequence of preparations for the marriage of the daughter of the Maharajah Heera Chund, of Belaspore, the poor people under him are being seized and pressed into service, and wood, grass, ghee, rice, &c., are all taken from them, without any payment being made. The writer promises more on this subject.

The *Sholatore* of the 16th of June does not present anything worthy of special notice.

The *Noor-ool Ubsar*, of the 15th of June, notices the Resolution of Government dated the 6th of June, and published in the *Gazette of India*, concerning *nuzzurana* given on the occasion of successorships to Hindoostanee States.

The writer mentions that great fears are entertained of a famine in the North-Western Provinces, owing to the bamboo having flowered this year, which is not usual. "According to the Hindoo religion, it is considered an evil omen." The writer prays that God may avert this evil.

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\* *Sic.*



The construction of a canal from Pindadun Khan to Lahore is noticed ; also the several congratulatory meetings on the occasion of the narrow escape from death of the Duke of Edinburgh.

The following also appears :—“ It is said that the Chief Justice of Bengal has requested the Government to appoint Englishmen who possess a good knowledge of the Hindoostanee language as Sherishtadars. They must also possess some knowledge of the working of the Courts ; and in consequence of there being a scarcity of such men of respectability, the salary has been fixed at Rs. 250 a month. The Governor-General has sanctioned this arrangement, and ordered that it be submitted to the English Government ; after which it will come into force.”

“ It is said that one of the Oudh family has petitioned the Governor-General to the effect that the ex-King owes him a *lakh of rupees*, for which he wishes to file a suit in the Civil Court. The Governor-General's reply was to the effect that it would be against the law to file a suit, as no complaint in Hindoostan could be accepted against Wajid Ali Shah. But it was added that the Superintendent of Political Pensions might advise a private settlement ; and if this arrangement could not be brought about, a commission might be formed to enquire into the claim.”

Concerning the custom of selling females at Indore, it is said that this custom still prevails, notwithstanding the desire of the Maharajah to put a stop to it. The writer says,—“ The marvel is that the police themselves sold the women who were imprisoned there ;” and he adds that “ many of the police are deserving of punishment for their crime. The Maharajah has now ordered a jail for the women alone, where none but females will be confined.”

Under the heading “ Ulwur,” it is said that “ Colonel Eden, Political Agent, Rajpootana States, lately reported that the



jail arrangements were good in Ulwur: upon which the Editor of the *Pioneer* writes that, 'although the jail arrangements may be good, the Ulwur Chief does not know what it is to be so. A few days ago it was reported in the native papers that five women under age were sent for from Lucknow, and one female who was much favoured by the Jeypore Chief was enticed away. These things are not becoming in a good Chief; and whether these reports be true or false, there can be no doubt that the Ulwur Chief has never been praised in the public newspapers for good works, nor for his talents; nor has he ever been said to show much interest in the progress of education in his State. If the arrangements of the jail are good, it is worth knowing, as perhaps this may be the commencement of good works.' "

The *Ukmil-ool Ukhbar* of the 17th of June, referring to the Surraogee procession at Goorgaon permitted by Major Elliot, Deputy Commissioner, says that the *bunnecahs*, &c., were much annoyed at the permission being given, "and some of them have gone into Delhi to appeal to the Commissioner."

The *Julwatore* of the 17th of June, after extracts and much that has already appeared, mentions that a Moolvie from Swat went to Calcutta, and received from the Government Rs. 2 per day as allowance. He returned to Peshawur, and now gets only six annas a day allowed him. Allusion is made to some disturbances towards Swat, "for the prevention of which some cavalry and infantry have been sent out."

The *Naiyar Rajistan* of the 12th of June, and the same paper of the 5th, do not require particular notice.

The *Oudh Ukhbar* of the 16th of June re-publishes the article concerning the admission of natives into the Civil Service. The Bhopal Begum is said to have held a Durbar in honour of Her Majesty's birth-day.

Allusion is made to Colonel Ramsay, Resident at Nepaul, finding British subjects in a state of slavery. "When this



was represented to Sir Jung Bahadoor, orders were at once passed to send them into British territory." The writer says that "Mr. Beames, who was Magistrate of Champaran, brought this matter to light, and the Government ordered an enquiry to be made ; but it is said that Mr. Beames was deceived in this respect, and the persons released told a different story. Those who were sent into British territory were undoubtedly people belonging to Nepaul, who thought that by going into British territory they would be provided for for life. Some of the women who were under the protection of Sir Jung Bahadoor's soldiers expressed a desire to return to Nepaul ; and a number of children who were sent were contented in their slavery ;" &c. &c. The writer thinks that in cases of this kind the interference of Government in Hindoostanee *reasuts* should not be ordered until full enquiries have been made ; "and," adds the writer, "we hope that in future the head official will not be guided or led away by subordinate officers before making full enquiry into such cases."

The *Malwa Ukhbar* of the 10th of June, after extracts, &c., also refers to Nepaul as follows :—"It is said that the Nepaul Council has been much praised for its fitness. The people of Nepaul are happy and contented under it ; and as there are many alms-houses, beggars and travellers are fed and supplied with clothes, and not a needy person is to be seen. Want of cleanliness is apparent in the city ; and the contract of tobacco and oil has caused much distress, as the tobacco is full of mud. The troops are well disciplined, and there are daily parades. Crime and disturbances are rare. The police constables are not allowed to oppress any one, and such people as false witnesses are not to be found. In short, everything in Nepaul is spoke very highly of."

Under the heading "Rutlam," an account is given of the procession of the Rajah, who went to make sacrifices to the small-pox. The writer says "that all the people turned out and were delighted to see the Rajah. Those who wish to ascertain whether the people of Hindoostan prefer their own or



the British rule ought to reside for some time in Hindoostanee States, and look and see for themselves how pleased the people are to see the master of their country, and what they wish him."

The *Nuzm-ool Ukhbar* of the 17th of June publishes Educational Reports, and little else of importance. Under the heading "Changes," the following appears:—"There was a time when the great Chiefs of Hindoostan used to lend money to English officers. Now the truth is that an officer has lent a large sum of money to a Hindoostanee Rajah."

The *Oordoo Dehli Gazette* of the 20th of June re-publishes many extracts from other papers. The story of some European soldiers who shot a pea-fowl and got into a serious brawl with some villagers, resulting in the wounding of one of the latter, is alluded to. The case is said to be pending before Colonel Meade.

The *Zea-ool Ukhbar* of the 20th of June, after extracts, asks a series of questions concerning the disposal of marriage portions, and whether, under British rule, decrees are given upon marriage portions, &c. Replies are solicited.

The following then appears:—"Generally in independent Native States our friends (natives) are placed in high appointments, and their Chiefs are very much pleased with their work and general management. In every way they have the power to do or undo anything, but we know from experience that although they work with the good-will of the Rajah and the English Government, still all the other Chiefs or head-men of the State who are of long standing are not pleased, because in Hindoostanee States relations are appointed to such posts; and when one person who is a stranger, and perhaps of a different creed, goes amongst them, and like a Chief commences to rule over great and small, it no doubt proves displeasing, and there will always be found people who will secretly endeavour to ruin him, until at last they succeed.



But as long as the Chief of the State is satisfied, no one can do harm, although there may be still much to be feared. It is clear that the favour and interest taken by a Chief in his own connections is such as no stranger can or need expect; but even, if such favour and interest is shown, it will be only such as is shown to servants, and not to relations. It has been frequently observed that one so situated has at last found cause for regret and sorrow," &c., &c. The writer proceeds to warn his friends that if any of them be so situated, they ought to be very careful in their work, and do their utmost to avoid disgrace, &c. He continues,—“Honor is like water; if one loses it, he is worse than a stone;” &c., &c.

The *Allygurh Institute Gazette*, of the 19th of June, the *Lawrence Gazette* of the same date, the *Khair Khwah Punjab*, also of the 19th, and the *Kaleid Unmed* of the 20th, do not require particular notice.

The *Punjabee Ukhbar* of the 19th of June opens with a history of Hyderabad, Deccan. The presents from Her Highness Secundra Begum of Bhopal to Her Majesty the Queen and the Princess of Wales are said to have been received, greatly admired, and graciously accepted. “One of them, a fan worked by the Begum’s own hands, and another made by the female students of the Victoria School, are very much prized.”

The increase in the value or quantity of merchandize imported into Hindoostan in the years 1866 and 1867 is noticed. The writer considers this a proof of the flourishing condition of trade.

“It is said to be known that the Russian officers of rank, having left Bokhara, have gone towards Herat with, one” (name illegible), &c., &c. This appears to be only a reprint of something which appeared in some other paper:—“Shah Newaz Khan, son of the Chief of Herat, has refused the offer of Rs. 10 a day offered him by the authorities of Kurrachee, and has gone to Bushire to claim his rights from the King of Persia. The son of Wazeer Akber Khan, Sir-dar Jullalooddeen Khan, is residing at Rawul Pindée, and gets



from the English Government Rs. 10 a day. Azim Khan sent Shah Murda Khan to Ameer Shere Ali with terms of peace, but unfortunately the Ameer did not accept them, and had the poor messenger blown from a gun. Herat, Candahar, and Khelat, are all in possession of Ameer Shere Ali, and the Ameer Azim Khan is only in possession of Bulk and Cabul. There is no chance of peace between the Ameer Shere Ali Khan and Azim Khan. They are both preparing for war, but the power of Ameer Azim Khan is every moment on the decline, and Shere Ali's in the ascendant. If the English were to aid Ameer Azim Khan, it would be well for him; but if this aid is refused, and he has to fight alone, there is no doubt about the result being against him."

The *Moofeed ool-Anam* of the 18th of June, and the *Mujma-ool Bharain* of the same date, do not require particular notice.

The *Rahnoomai Punjab* of the 19th of June has very little in it besides poetry. The increase in the pay of the native officials employed in the Punjab Courts is referred to. The writer thinks that this increase has not been fairly or justly made, as some who had been looking out for this happy day have been sadly disappointed, not only in not receiving any increase to their pay, but in being discharged. The complaint seems to be that while in one department two Sherishtadars are kept, one should be gladdened by an increase to his income, and the other not; and it is asked how the latter will work with a faithful heart for his employers, and whether such an arrangement is in accordance with strict justice. "Independent of this," continues the writer, "many other servants who considered themselves deserving were disappointed." Here follow the names of those whom the writer considers deserving,—viz., the Naib Tehseeldar and the Magistrate's Sherishtadar. He thinks that a Tehseeldar ought to receive Rs. 200 a month, and a Sherishtadar Rs. 150, &c., &c.; and he concludes by suggesting that "all Commissioners and Deputy Commissioners should make a report in favor of this to the Lieutenant-Governor



of the Punjab, and that it will not be surprising if Major Mercer approves of it, as he is a great advocate for reform and the public good."

The following Vernacular newspapers have been examined in this Report, viz. :—

No.	NAME OF PAPER.	WHERE PUBLISHED.	DATE.		WHEN RECEIVED.	
			1868.		1868.	
1	<i>Rahnoomai Punjab,</i>	Sealkote,	June	12th	June	16th
2	<i>Kaleid Ummed,</i>	Lahore,	"	13th	"	16th
3	<i>Koh-i-Noor,</i>	Ditto,	"	13th	"	16th
4	<i>Moofeed-ool Anam,</i>	Futtehgurh,	"	11th	"	16th
5	<i>Rohilcund Ukhbar,</i>	Moradabad,	"	13th	"	17th
6	<i>Unjumun Hind,</i>	Lucknow,	"	13th	"	17th
7	<i>Gwalior Gazette,</i>	Gwalior,	"	7th	"	18th
8	<i>Sadiq-ool Ukhbar,</i>	Bhawulpore,	"	13th	"	18th
9	<i>Meerut Gazette,</i>	Meerut,	"	13th	"	18th
10	<i>Ukhbar Alum,</i>	Ditto,	"	11th	"	18th
11	<i>Nusseem Jounpore,</i>	Jounpore,	"	16th	"	19th
12	<i>Sholatore,</i>	Cawnpore,	"	16th	"	19th
13	<i>Noor-ool Ubsar,</i>	Allahabad,	"	15th	"	19th
14	<i>Ukmil-ool Ukhbar,</i>	Delhi,	"	17th	"	19th
15	<i>Julwatore,</i>	Meerut,	"	17th	"	19th
16	<i>Naiyar Rajistan,</i>	Jeypore,	"	12th	"	19th
17	<i>Ditto,</i>	Ditto,	"	5th	"	15th
18	<i>Oudh Ukhbar,</i>	Lucknow,	"	16th	"	20th
19	<i>Malwa Ukhbar,</i>	Indore,	"	10th	"	20th
20	<i>Nujm-ool-Ukhbar,</i>	Meerut,	"	17th	"	20th
21	<i>Oordoo Dehli Gazette,</i>	Agra,	"	20th	"	20th
22	<i>Zea-ool Ukhbar,</i>	Delhi,	"	20th	"	20th
23	<i>Allygurh Institute Gazette,</i>	Allygurh,	"	19th	"	21st
24	<i>Lawrence Gazette,</i>	Meerut,	"	19th	"	21st
25	<i>Khair Khwah Punjab,</i>	Goojranwalla,	"	19th	"	22nd
26	<i>Kaleid Ummed,</i>	Lahore,	"	20th	"	22nd
27	<i>Punjabee Ukhbar,</i>	Ditto,	"	19th	"	22nd
28	<i>Moofeed-ool Anam,</i>	Futtehgurh,	"	18th	"	23rd
29	<i>Mujma-ool Bharain,</i>	Loodiana,	"	18th	"	23rd
30	<i>Rahnoomai Punjab,</i>	Sealkote,	"	19th	"	23rd
31	<i>Tutboodnee Putthiki,</i>	Bareilly,	April	30th	"	22nd
	<i>Two Nagree papers.</i>					

(True translation.)

GEORGE WAGENTREIBER,  
Government Reporter on the Vernacular Press,  
Upper India.

DELHI :  
The 16th July, 1868. }



The following Verbal reports have been examined  
and found to be true and correct.

Very truly yours,  
J. H. [Signature]

The following is a list of the names of the persons who have been appointed to the various positions in the Department of the Interior, under the act of March 3, 1879, entitled "An Act to provide for the better management of the public lands, and for other purposes."